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TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A SUBMISSION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371 INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED PCT/EP03/13012 20/11/2003 26/11/2002 TITLE OF INVENTION Probe for Determination of Oxygen Activity in Metal Melts and Methods. APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US <u> Merkens: Schmitz</u> Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information: 1. X This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371. This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371. This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below. The US has been elected (Article 31). A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). has been communicated by the International Bureau. is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)). is attached hereto. has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)) are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). have been communicated by the International Bureau. have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. have not been made and will not be made. An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)). An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)). An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)). Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included: An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included. A preliminary amendment. An Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76. A substitute specification. A power of attorney and/or change of address letter. A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). Other items or information:

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.414 and 1.491-1.492. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public, which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 15 minutes to complete, including gathering information, preparing, and submitting the completed form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.